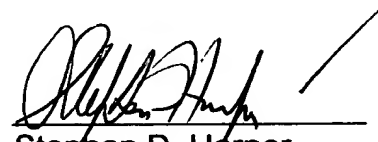


**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application  
PCT/EP98/06907 filed October 31, 1998**

by 37 CFR § 1.77. The amendment at page 2, line 25, is for the purpose of correcting an obvious typographical error. The names of several trademarked products have been identified by capitalizing each letter of the mark, as recommended by MPEP 608.01(v). The amendment at page 11, line 19, is for the purpose of correcting a typographical error introduced during translation of the priority document.

The original claims have been cancelled and replaced with new claims in conformance with United States claiming practice. No new matter has been introduced.

Respectfully submitted,



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